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thepacer
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The independent voice of the University of Tennessee at Martin

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Back to the books



The UTM Office of the Chancellor held a "Welcome Back, Carver" reception Jan. 3 to welcome newly appointed chancellor Dr. Keith Carver to campus for his first official day of work. Carver (left) is shown greeting Dr. Mahmoud Haddad, professor of Finance, during the event. | **Photo Credit/University Relations**

Chancellor begins term with travel

University Relations

Dr. Keith Carver, newly appointed UTM chancellor, began his official duties Jan. 3 with a reception, and then hit the road Jan. 5 for the first of his meetings with alumni, donors and community members.

Carver also plans to meet with faculty, staff and students at the five UTM centers in Jackson, Parsons, Ripley, Selmer and Somerville.

The "Cruisin' with Carver" tour will canvas the region throughout January and February. A variety of events and visits are planned for the duration of the



tour, including alumni chapter meetings and visits to local high schools.

The schedule of stops is:

- Jan. 17 – Parsons
- Jan. 24 – Dyersburg
- Jan. 25 – Jackson
- Jan. 26 – Clarksville

- Feb. 2 – Selmer
- Feb. 15 – Union City
- Feb. 16 – Somerville
- Feb. 23 – Ripley

Each stop will include a reception that is open to the public and the news media. Visit utmforever.com/cruisin to be updated on information regarding public events as details become available and to register intent to attend.

For more information about the public events or the "Cruisin' with Carver" tour schedule, contact Jackie Johnson, UTM associate director of alumni programs, at 731-881-7610 or by email at jjohn253@utm.edu.

What's coming up



The UTM Parsons Center will celebrate its 10-year anniversary with a reception from 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Jan. 17. The event is open to the public, and alumni, students, faculty and staff are invited to attend. | **Photo courtesy University Relations**

Other events

- * **Saturday, Jan. 14:** Day of Service (go to OrgSync for details)
- * **Monday, Jan. 16:** No class (Martin Luther King Jr. Day)
- * **Tuesday, Jan. 17:** Faculty/staff "Rock Tuba" recital at 7:30 p.m. in Blankenship Recital Hall, Fine Arts Building
- * **Wednesday, Jan. 18:** Last day to add classes for spring 2017
- * **Feb. 16-26:** UTM's 17th annual Civil Rights Conference

During the break



Yes, it snowed Jan. 5-6 and was bitterly cold. Spring semester, however, is starting with higher temperatures and rain. | **Pacer Photo/Elysia Duke**



Bowties and basketball

The Skyhawk women's and men's basketball teams will face Southeast Missouri at 4 and 6 p.m., respectively, Saturday, Jan. 14, in the Elam Center. A special tribute will be offered to welcome Dr. Keith Carver to his first home games as chancellor.



Viewpoints

EDITORIAL

Spring semester 2017 is now under way

The members of the editorial board of The Pacer would like to welcome all students back to campus, and hope everyone has had a wonderful and refreshing winter break.

So much has happened in 2017 already, for better and for worse. The Facebook Live torture of a special-needs student, the highly controversial death of SeaWorld orca Tilikum, and violent activity in Istanbul, Turkey and Fort Lauderdale, Florida have placed a damper

on the dawn of the new year. But amidst the constant torrent of negative news stories provided by the media, we've also begun to see examples of human kindness making the news, from a 10-year-old growing his hair for three years to donate to his friend with cancer, to a senior citizen in Canada inventing a knitting machine to help clothe the homeless.

With that being said, great things have happened on the campus during the break as well.

Dr. Keith Carver's first day as Chancellor was January 3, and he will also be touring the West Tennessee area during January and February. In addition, during the break, more than 100 students graduated from UTM with undergraduate and graduate degrees from the five colleges of the university during fall commencement exercises on December 10.

Many events are scheduled to happen on campus over the coming semester. Basketball season is coming back into

swing, with games at least once a week this month starting this upcoming Saturday at 6 p.m. This semester will also see musical performances multiple times a week, numerous club and extracurricular meetings, a new series of academic speakers, housing activities, SAC activities and more.

While 2016 was not the best year of all time, here's to working to make 2017 a brighter year, not only on campus, but in the world as a whole.

the pacer

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COLUMNS

Why 'Black Lives Matter' to young white people

An open letter: the historical case of societal and racial injustice

Dr. David Barber

Guest Writer

I know that we've got a lot of white people in this country – and in this area in particular – who get very upset when they hear the phrase "Black Lives Matter."

Oftentimes these folks respond by saying "All Lives Matter," or "Blue Lives Matter," or maybe they just shake their heads, angrily and walk away. Nevertheless, I hope that you will consider listening to what I have to say before you crumple up this issue of The Pacer and slam it into the trash – consider, and weigh the evidence that I present here on its merits.

First, I hope you will acknowledge with me that in the history of this country black lives have not mattered. Black people, alone among the millions of people who came to this country, did not choose to come here. White people, or more specifically, rich white people, brought them to these shores in order to work tobacco, sugar, rice and, of course, cotton plantations: free labor for nearly two and a half centuries. Through those long years the stolen, unpaid labor of these

millions of people created the great wealth not only of the South, but of the North too, the North which bought, sold and transported slaves and the product of their labor.

Imagine, if you can, the life of a slave; put yourself in the position of that slave: no control over your time, up before dawn, working in the hot fields the whole of the day, eating on the go, to drop into a slumber late in the evening, only to start all over the following day. Be slow in getting up, break a tool while working, respond uncertainly to your master's questions and be cruelly whipped, or be forced to whip your own brother or sister. Worse still: to be separated at a moment's notice from your children, or your parents, or your wife, or your husband, they, or you, sold off to another master; to be the object of your master's lust as a young female slave, and from whom you have no protection; or simply to be killed for any reason whatsoever.

Please do tell me that you can see that for longer than black people have been freed from slavery, their lives counted for nothing, that black lives did not matter.

And after slavery, more of the same: segregation, a system

which denied you all rights, which constantly told you of your inferiority, made you bow and scrape before all white people, and which denied your children an education.

Perhaps you think that you are stronger than this, that you would not have allowed other people to continually humiliate you. Certainly, numerous black men and women resisted and tried to stand tall. But those who made the attempt too often fell victim to brutal lynch mobs – two hundred and fifty men and women lynched each and every year for thirty years in the early segregation era. Yes, lynched – not in some far away country, but right here in Martin, Tennessee, off Ralston Road; in Greenfield, just down the road; in Union City; and in Dyersburg – where hundreds of the town's best citizens watched as the mob gouged the victim's eyes out with hot pokers and burnt the whole of his back with hot irons, taking three hours to kill the man. Not one member of that lynch mob, or any lynch mob, ever faced repercussions for the murders they'd committed.

Surely a society in which it was possible to do such things counted black lives as of no matter.

So, yes, from a strictly historical perspective, black people are entirely justified in demanding that this country acknowledge that Black Lives Do Matter. Equally important: it is necessary for the mental and emotional well-being of America's white population, and of American society as a whole, that we not only acknowledge but proclaim that Black Lives Matter. Any other response on our part will guarantee that this country will not know peace, that we will continue to live the lie that white people are better than black people. And here's the thing: I doubt that you could find a single white person in this country over thirty years of age who doesn't know that white supremacy is a lie, is a hoax, a hoax whose façade can only be maintained with violence and more violence. Violence against others, yes, but a far more fearful violence against our own souls.

Here ends my first letter to you. I hope to write again, soon, with a look at how the Black Lives Matter demand first came to be articulated, and the evidence that says that here, today, in this country, Black Lives continue to not Matter for American society and its institutions.

All of us, even celebrities, can still speak freely

Kristina Shaw

Managing Editor

In an acceptance speech for winning the Cecil B. DeMille award at the Golden Globes ceremony on Jan. 8, 2017, actress Meryl Streep voiced personal thoughts that were well received by some and ill received by others.

Streep's speech took on a political tone and indirectly targeted president-elect Donald Trump. She began by recognizing her fellow actors and actresses that have lived in other countries.

"If we kick them all out, you'll have nothing to watch but

football and mixed martial arts," said Streep.

In addition to the aforementioned "foreigners", Streep identified Hollywood and the press as those that "belong to the most vilified segments of American society right now."

She congratulated the works of those present and referenced Trump's mocking of disabled New York Times reporter, Serge Kovaleski at a South Carolina rally in 2015 as another performance that caught her attention.

"This instinct to humiliate when it's modeled by someone in the public platform, by someone

powerful, it filters down into everybody's life because it kind of gives permission for other people to do the same thing," said Streep.

Though her speech was applauded by some like actor George Clooney, and widely circulated through social media, it also drew criticism from others.

Through Twitter, Trump fired back and called Streep "one of the most over-rated actresses in Hollywood" and a "Hillary flunky who lost big."

In another highly circulated video, hip-hop artist AnOmaly criticizes Streep for insinuating that Trump

is "bringing violence into politics" despite the country's acts of war.

This begs the question of whether celebrities should freely voice their opinions given their status.

Though most of what society considers celebrities make more money than the average Joe could imagine and have several other privileges, they are, at their core, individuals with opinions. It is the job of the audience to interpret their words, which must be taken with a grain of salt, no matter the location or speaker.

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UTM Office of Student Publications

Arts & Entertainment

17 movies to see in 2017



1. A Dog's Purpose
Jan. 27

2. Fifty Shades Darker
Feb. 10

3. Logan
March 3

4. Beauty and the Beast
March 17

The Fate of the Furious

5. April 14

6. Guardians of the Galaxy
May 5

7. Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Men Tell No Tales
May 26

8. Wonder Woman
June 2

9. Transformers: The Last Knight
June 23

10. Spider-Man: Homecoming
July 7

11. Annabelle 2
Aug. 11

12. Insidious: Chapter 4
Oct. 20

13. Saw: Legacy
Oct. 27

14. Thor: Ragnarok
Nov. 3

15. Justice League
Nov. 17

16. Star Wars: Episode VIII
Dec. 15

17. Pitch Perfect 3
Dec. 22



Alumnus to present guest artist exhibition

The UTM Department of Visual and Theatre Arts will host a guest exhibition by artist Josh Breeden, a university alum and Martin native, from Jan. 17-28 in the Fine Arts Building Gallery on the main campus. His exhibit, "Omnivorous Eyes," is free and open to the public. An opening reception will be held in the Fine Arts Gallery from 5-6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 17. The gallery is open from 1-5 p.m. weekdays and before major theater and music performances. Breeden earned a degree in Fine Arts and Graphic Design in 2007. Presently, he works for Loaded For Bear in Memphis, Tennessee. | **Photo Credit** stfranciselevatorride.com

Sports

UTM men's basketball team falls 76-65 at Tennessee State

Sports Information

The UTM men's basketball team led by as many as 12 points this evening but a strong second half by Tennessee State propelled the Tigers to a 76-65 win at the Gentry Center.

The Skyhawks (11-8, 1-3 Ohio Valley Conference) raced out to a 21-9 lead to begin the contest before settling for a 30-26 lead at the halftime break. However, UTM wasn't able to fend off a Tennessee State offensive attack that connected on 66.7 percent (18-for-27) of its shot attempts in the final 20 minutes.

Fatodd Lewis led the Skyhawks in scoring for the second time this season, recording 11 points to go along with four rebounds and three assists off the bench. Javier Martinez scored 10 points and snared a team-best eight rebounds while Matthew Butler (10 points), Kedar Edwards (nine points, seven rebounds, five assists, three steals) and Jacolby Mobley (nine points) also guided UTM.

Tennessee State (11-5, 2-1 OVC) placed four players in double-figures scoring, led by Delano Spencer's 19 points. Tahjere McCall and

Wayne Martin scored 17 points apiece while Darreon Reddick added 11 points for the Tigers.

"We started out on the right foot but we couldn't keep it going," Skyhawk head coach Anthony Stewart said. "We had a good lead but couldn't get stops toward the end of the first half. Our shots weren't going down and we weren't getting many consecutive stops in the second half. We played well in spurts but we couldn't put it all together for the full 40 minutes."

The Skyhawk defense was swarming early, as UTM held Tennessee State without a field goal for the first 6:47 of the contest. The Tigers began the game 0-for-10 from the field while the Skyhawks built up a double-digit lead at 15-4. Martinez scored six of UTM's first eight points of the game to help the Skyhawk offense get off to a successful start.

Three-pointers by Lewis and Butler increased UTM's lead to a dozen (21-9) a little over 11 minutes into the game. Tennessee State trimmed its deficit to five points at the 6:10 mark but Jalen Jackson and Kahari Beaufort knocked down three-pointers on back-

to-back possessions to push the Skyhawk advantage back out to 28-17.

A tip-in by Lewis with 3:13 to go in the first half maintained UTM's lead at 11 points but the Tigers would close out the half on a 7-0 run to result in a 30-26 Skyhawk advantage at the break. Martinez compiled six points and seven rebounds to lead UTM in the opening half. Armani Chaney scored a team-high six points for Tennessee State, who shot just 32.3 percent - including a 16.7 percent (2-of-12) effort from three-point land.

The Tigers began the second half by scoring seven of the first eight points, taking their first lead of the game (33-31) in the process. An offensive rebound and ensuing layup by Martinez evened the score but McCall tossed in six straight Tennessee State points during a 14-3 run that made the score 49-38 in favor of the Tigers.

After Edwards sank a trey from the left corner at the 12-minute mark, the Skyhawks did not convert another field goal for 3:31. That drought allowed Tennessee State to open up a 12-point lead with eight minutes remaining.



Sophomore Forward Fatodd Lewis dribbles around a Tennessee State defender. Lewis led the team in scoring with 11 points. | Photo Credit/Jake Rogers

UTM's offense warmed up with a 6-0 run over a span of 1:16, as Edwards (three-pointer), Beaufort (two free throws) and Butler (long two-point jumper) helped the Skyhawks close within five points at 59-54.

However, the Tigers answered with an 8-2 run to go back ahead by double-digits (67-56) with 4:03 left to play.

Malik London scored six

points as part of a final UTM surge, but ultimately the Skyhawks would not get any closer than seven points the rest of the way.

The Skyhawks start a three-game homestand on Saturday, Jan. 14, when they host OVC West rival Southeast Missouri. The contest, which is the backend of a doubleheader with the women's basketball team, will start about 6 p.m.

UTM drops third straight in overtime battle at TSU 85-80

Sports Information

UTM's women's basketball team dropped its third consecutive Ohio Valley Conference matchup while pushing its winless road streak to eight games with an 85-80 overtime loss at Tennessee State on Saturday evening.

The Skyhawks (4-13, 1-3 OVC) continued a slide which ranks as the team's longest conference losing streak since the 2009-10 season with their third consecutive league defeat. The game also served as UTM's first overtime contest since squaring off against Tennessee State in the OVC Tournament championship in 2015.

The contest featured 13 lead changes while seeing the score tied seven times. In a sloppy game of sorts, each team tallied 28 turnovers to combined for 56 total. Tennessee State dominated the battle of the paint by outscoring UTM 50-18 in the post while tallying 21 second chance points.

UTM was led by freshman Kendall Spray who tossed in a game-high 29 points - including seven three-

pointers - while shattering her previous career high. The trio of Myah Taylor (13 points, eight rebounds), Ansley Eubank (12 points, nine rebounds) and Emanye Robertson (12 points, seven assists) also scored in double figures for the Skyhawks.

"All I want to see is our kids improve and I think we took strides in getting better but we still made too many mistakes to win the game," said UTM head coach Kevin McMillan. "We got down but we didn't quit. We have to get better at executing and cut down our mental lapses. This was almost a game where nobody really wanted to win when you consider all of the runs by both teams. There were stretches where we played good enough to win, but also parts where we didn't deserve it. We just aren't ready to close games out. We are playing hard but we just aren't ready to get over the hump yet."

Tennessee State (6-7, 1-2 OVC) picked up its first conference win of the season after shooting 43 percent from the field and boasting four players in double figures - including three with 20 points

or more. The Lady Tigers were led by Tia Wooten who tallied 21 points and eight rebounds while Imani Davis and Kaliya Griffin each tossed in 20 points. Jayda Johnson joined in the action by tallying a double-double with 14 points and 13 rebounds.

The Skyhawks would open the game on a 5-0 run behind a pair of buckets by Spray to get the game started. After holding the slim lead, Tennessee State would respond later in the quarter by stringing together a 16-3 run to close out the period. Griffin would play a big part in the stretch which included a 9-0 run by chipping in eight points of her own. After one quarter of play, Tennessee State would hold a 16-8 advantage.

The second quarter would see Tennessee State push its lead out to as high as 12 points following a tip-in by Wooten nearly three minutes into the period. After watching both teams post miniature runs through the quarter which saw the score fluctuate, UTM would finish the first half on a 5-0 run behind a layup by Emily Eubank and a three-

pointer by Ashton Feldhaus just before the buzzer. Despite the run, the Lady Tigers would hold a 31-25 lead at the break.

UTM would come out of the break as the aggressors looking to not only overcome the team's deficit but take a lead of its own. The score would stay close in the opening minutes with the Skyhawks holding a slim lead before handing it right back to the Lady Tigers. With the score tied at 39 points apiece, UTM would string together a 17-1 run of its own to push the team's lead out to 14 points late in the third quarter. During the run the guard duo of Spray and Robertson would both toss in eight points each to outscore Tennessee State 29-11 in the third and take a 54-42 into the final quarter of play.

The script would flip in the fourth quarter as Tennessee State turned on the home court advantage with a full court press of its own to keep the turnover numbers rising and key the team's comeback. The Lady Tigers would quickly wipe away the team's 12-point deficit in just four

minutes as a layup by Johnson would cap TSU's comeback attempt and give the squad a one-point advantage.

Down the stretch TSU would push its lead out to a high as three points on a pair of occasions before a four-point play by Spray with 23 seconds left in the contest gave UTM a brief one-point advantage. Tennessee State would answer the deficit on the team's final possession as Griffin sank a free throw to force overtime with the score tied at 72.

With the game back to a blank slate, Tennessee State would go to work in the overtime period. A quick 6-0 run by the Lady Tigers would put the Skyhawks on their heels. Despite the team's mixture of runs throughout the game, the Skyhawks would trim the margin to as close as two points in the overtime period before ultimately dropping the road contest 85-80.

UTM will return to the Elam Center for the team's next contest against OVC foe Southeast Missouri on Saturday, Jan. 14. Tipoff is scheduled for 4 p.m.

Around the NEST Basketball

Men's Upcoming Schedule:

6 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 14, Southeast Missouri
7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 19, Eastern Illinois
6 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 21, SIUE
8 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 26 @ Austin Peay
7 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 28 @ Murray State

Women's Upcoming Schedule:

4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 14, Southeast Missouri
6 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 18 @ Eastern Illinois
4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 21, SIUE
6 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 25, Austin Peay
5 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 28 @ Murray State